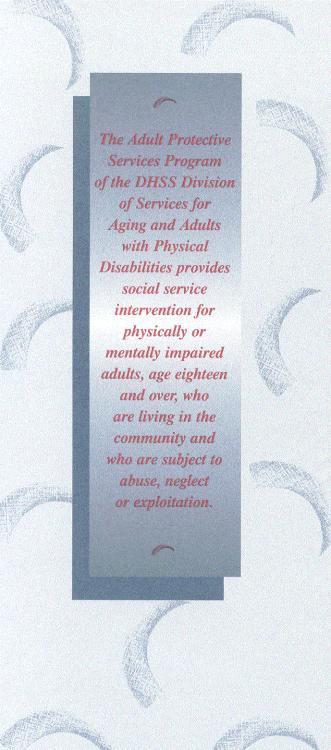
Adult
Protective
Services
Program





## What does Adult Protective Services do?

mpaired adults are often not able to protect themselves against incidents of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Many do not know where to turn for assistance. Others are incapable of seeking help because they are physically dependent, unable to leave their home or use a telephone. Many are simply too embarrassed or frightened to ask for help.

Upon receiving a report, a social worker will contact the individual, assess his/her needs and develop a course of action to resolve the situation.

Referrals can be made anonymously if the individual desires. Confidentiality will be strictly observed.

### What is elder abuse?

he mistreatment of an elderly person who is dependent on someone else for basic needs.

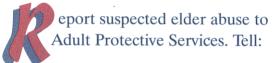
### Elder abuse may include:

- Willful infliction of physical pain, injury
- Willful infliction of mental anguish, psychological injury
- Financial exploitation
- Sexual exploitation

### What are some signs of elder abuse?

- Unexplained injuries
- Sudden changes in mood, attitude or behavior
- Inadequate care
- Evidence of unreasonable confinement
- Unexplained or sudden depletion of financial resources
- Hesitation to talk openly

## What can you do to stop elder abuse?



- What happened
- Who it happened to
- Where and when it happened

## What will happen when you call?

- Your call will be confidential.
- A social worker or nurse will investigate the situation.
- Adult Protective Services will work with the victim as well as the abuser to resolve the problem.

## What other resources are available through Adult Protective Services?

- Caregiver support services
- Social casework
- Assistance in obtaining community services
- Information and referral on legal services
- Information on financial counseling
- Referral for medical/ psychological assessment

YOUR CONFIDENTIAL CALL
CAN HELP STOP
ELDER ABUSE

- PLEASE HELP! -

# DHSS Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities

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